IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-2 and 4-12 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

interacting with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interacting yields an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the ~~deposit~~ credit; and

~~requesting~~ sending a request to said source ~~of the deposit~~ to deposit said amount ~~of credit~~ on said account ~~associated to said user terminal~~,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request comprises generating a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises ~~an~~ a first attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an~~ the ~~associated~~ account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said interacting is based on a ~~value-added~~ multimedia application run on a multimedia application server provided in said communication network.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein

said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises:

an a second attribute value pair identifying said source of the deposit; and

an a third attribute value pair identifying the amount of said deposit.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein

the DIAMETER request message is routed to said source based on said second

attribute value pair identifying said source of the deposit.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising

acknowledging, by said source, whether said request was successful or not.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, further comprising

depositing said amount to said account associated to said user terminal upon

receiving an acknowledgment indicating success.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, further comprising informing

said user terminal of the amount being deposited to an said account associated to said

user terminal.

Application No.: 10/518,242

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~ An apparatus, comprising:

an interaction unit configured to interact with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interaction unit is further configured to yield an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the ~~deposit~~ credit; ~~and~~

a requesting unit configured to ~~request~~ send a request to said source ~~of the deposit~~ to deposit said amount ~~of credit~~ on said account ~~associated to said user terminal~~,

wherein said request is based on the DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said requesting unit is further configured to generate a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~; and

a receiver configured to receive an acknowledgement of said request; and

a depositing unit configured to deposit the amount to the account.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An account server~~ An apparatus, comprising:

Application No.: 10/518,242

a ~~receiving unit~~ receiver configured to receive a request message from a network ~~entity~~ element to deposit an amount of credit ~~on~~ to an account associated to a user terminal subscribed to a communication network,

wherein said request message is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said DIAMETER request message identifies the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said received DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~; and

~~a depositing unit configured to deposit the amount of credit on the account associated to said user terminal~~ an acknowledging unit configured to return an acknowledgment to the network element, wherein the acknowledgement is based on the DIAMETER protocol.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element~~ An apparatus. comprising:

interaction means for interacting with a user terminal subscribed to a communication network, wherein said interacting yields an indication of at least (a) whether a credit is to be deposited on an account associated to said user terminal, (b) an amount of credit to be deposited, and (c) a source of the ~~deposit~~ credit; and

requesting means for ~~requesting~~ sending a request to said source ~~of the deposit~~ to deposit said amount ~~of credit~~ on said account ~~associated to said user terminal~~,

Application No.: 10/518,242

wherein said request is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said ~~requesting~~ sending a request comprises generating a DIAMETER request message identifying the request as a request for depositing an amount to an account, and

wherein said generated DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~; and

    receiving means for receiving an acknowledgement of said request; and

    depositing means for depositing the amount to the account.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~An account server~~ An apparatus, comprising:

    receiving means for receiving a request message from a network ~~entity~~ element to deposit an amount of credit ~~on~~ to an account associated to a user terminal subscribed to a communication network,

wherein said request message is based on ~~the~~ a DIAMETER protocol,

wherein said DIAMETER request message identifies the request as a request for depositing ~~an~~ the amount to ~~an~~ the account, and

wherein said received DIAMETER request message further comprises an attribute value pair identifying the user terminal to ~~an associated~~ the account ~~of which the deposit is to be deposited~~; and

    Application No.: 10/518,242

~~depositing means for depositing the amount of credit on the account associated to said user terminal~~acknowledging means for returning an acknowledgment to the network element, wherein the acknowledgement is based on the DIAMETER protocol.

Application No.: 10/518,242